CLAIMS

I claim:

1.    A method for reporting supplier on time performance comprising:

storing purchase order data in a data base; and

generating on time performance reports from the purchase order data, the on time performance reports including a number of orders delivered on time by a first supplier with respect to each of a plurality of start point / end point pairs.

2.    The method of claim 1 wherein the on time performance reports also include a number of line items delivered on time by the first supplier with respect to each of the plurality of start point / end point pairs.

3.    The method of claim 1 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage.

4.    The method of claim 2 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage and the number of line items delivered on time is a percentage.

5.    A system for reporting supplier on time performance comprising:

at least one computer;

first executable code for storing purchase order data in a data base; and

second executable code for generating on time performance reports from the purchase order data, the on time performance reports including a number of orders delivered on time by a first supplier with respect to each of a plurality of start point / end point pairs.

6        The system of claim 5 wherein the on time performance reports also include a number of line items delivered on time by the first supplier with respect to each of the plurality of start point / end point pairs.

7.       The system of claim 5 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage.

8.       The system of claim 6 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage and the number of line items delivered on time is a percentage.

9.       A method for reporting supplier on time performance comprising:

storing in a database summarized purchase order data from a plurality of buyers, the summarized purchase order data comprising a plurality of records, each record in the plurality of records including a supplier, a buyer, a one of a plurality of start point / end point pairs for measuring on time delivery, a number of orders placed, and a number of orders delivered on time;

for a first subset of the plurality of records, each record in the first subset including a first of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and a first supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of the first subset to obtain a first total number of orders placed with the first supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery;

for the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time;

for a second subset of the plurality of records, each record of the second

subset including a second of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and the first

supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of

the second subset to obtain a second total number of orders placed with the first

supplier for which the second start point / end point pair is used to measure on time

delivery;

for the second subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number

of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the second total number of orders

that were delivered on time; and

reporting to the plurality of buyers the first total number of orders, the number

of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time, the second total

number of orders, and the number of the second total number of orders that were

delivered on time.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprising:

for a third subset of the plurality of records, each record in the third subset

including the first of the plurality of start point / end point pairs, the first supplier, and

a first of the plurality of buyers, summing together the number of orders placed

included in each record of the third subset to obtain a third total number of orders, the

third total number of orders being a number of orders placed by the first buyer with

the first supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on

time delivery;

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for the third subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time; and

reporting to the plurality of buyers the third total number of orders and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage and the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the method further comprising:

dividing the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100; and

dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage; the method further comprising:

dividing the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100; and

dividing the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time by the third total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100.

13. The method of claim 10 wherein the third subset of the plurality of records consists of a single record.

14. The method of claim 9 wherein the summarized purchase order data is also from a plurality of suppliers, the method further comprising:

for a third subset of the plurality of records, each record in the third subset including a first of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and a second supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of the third subset to obtain a third total number of orders, the third total being a total number of orders placed with the second supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery;

for the third subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time included in each record of the third subset to obtain a number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time; and

reporting to the plurality of buyers and the plurality of suppliers the first total number of orders, the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time, the second total number of orders, the number of the second total number of

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orders that were delivered on time, the third total number of orders and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time.

15.     The method of claim 9 wherein each of the plurality of records in the summarized purchase order data also includes a number of line items and a number of line items delivered on time, the method further comprising:

for the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of line items included in each record of the first subset to obtain a first total number of line items ordered from the first supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery;

for the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of line items delivered on time to obtain a number of the first total number of line items that were delivered on time; and

reporting to the plurality of buyers the first total number of line items and the number of the first total number of line items that were delivered on time.

16.     The method of claim 14 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the method further comprising:

dividing the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100; and

dividing the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time by the third total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100.

17.    The method of claim 15 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, and the number of the first total number of line items that were delivered on time is a percentage, the method further comprising:

dividing the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100; and

dividing the number of the first total number of line items that were delivered on time by the first total number of line items and multiplying the result by 100.

18.    A system for reporting supplier on time performance comprising:

at least one computer;

first executable code for storing in a database summarized purchase order data from a plurality of buyers, the summarized purchase order data comprising a plurality of records, each record including a supplier, a buyer, a one of a plurality of

start point /end point pairs for measuring on time delivery, a number of orders placed, and a number of orders delivered on time;

second executable code for, with respect to a first subset of the plurality of records, each record in the first subset including a first of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and a first supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of the first subset to obtain a first total number of orders placed with the first supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery;

third executable code for, with respect to the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time;

fourth executable code for, with respect to a second subset of the plurality of records, each record of the second subset including a second of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and the first supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of the second subset to obtain a second total number of orders placed with the first supplier for which the second start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery;

fifth executable code for, with respect to the second subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time; and

sixth executable code for assembling a report, the report including the first

total number of orders, the number of the first total number of orders that were

delivered on time, the second total number of orders, and the number of the second

total number of orders that were delivered on time;

wherein the first, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth executable code is in an

electronically readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

19.    The system of claim 18 further comprising:

seventh executable code for, with respect to a third subset of the plurality of

records, each record in the third subset including the first of the plurality of start point

/ end point pairs, the first supplier, and a first of the plurality of buyers, summing

together the number of orders placed included in each record of the first subset to

obtain a third total number of orders placed by the first buyer with the first supplier

for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery; and

eighth executable code for, with respect to the third subset of the plurality of

records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a

number/percentage of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time;

wherein the report assembled by the sixth executable code also includes the

third total number of orders and the number of the third total number of orders that

were delivered on time; and

wherein the seventh and eighth executable code is also in an electronically

readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

20.     The system of claim 18 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage and the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the system further comprising:

seventh executable code for dividing the number of first total number of orders delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100; and

eighth executable code for dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

wherein the seventh and eighth executable code is also in an electronically readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

21.     The system of claim 19 wherein the number of the first total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time is a percentage, and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time, the system further comprising:

ninth executable code for dividing the number of first total number of orders that were delivered on time by the first total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

tenth executable code for dividing the number of the second total number of orders that were delivered on time by the second total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

eleventh executable code for dividing the number of the third total number or orders that were delivered on time by the third total number of orders and multiplying the result by 100;

wherein the ninth, tenth, and eleventh executable code is also in an electronically readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

22.     The system of claim 18 wherein the summarized purchase order data is also from a plurality of suppliers, the system further comprising:

seventh executable code for, with respect to a third subset of the plurality of records, each record in the third subset including a first of the plurality of start point / end point pairs and a second supplier, summing together the number of orders placed included in each record of the first subset to obtain a first total number of orders placed with the second supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery; and

eighth executable code for, with respect to the third subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of orders delivered on time to obtain a number of the third total number of orders delivered on time;

wherein, the report assembled by the sixth executable code also includes the third total number of orders and the number of the third total number of orders that were delivered on time; and

wherein the seventh and eighth executable code is also in an electronically readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

23.     The system of claim 18 wherein each of the plurality of records in the summarized purchase order data also includes a number of line items and a number of line items delivered on time, the system further comprising:

seventh executable code for, with respect to the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of line items included in each record of the first subset to obtain a first total number of line items ordered from the first supplier for which the first start point / end point pair is used to measure on time delivery; and

eighth executable code for, with respect to the first subset of the plurality of records, summing together the number of line items delivered on time to obtain a number of the first total number of line items delivered on time;

wherein the report assembled by the sixth executable code also includes the first total number of line items and the number of the first total number of line items that were delivered on time; and

wherein the seventh and eighth executable code is also in an electronically readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

24.     A system for reporting supplier on time performance comprising:

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means for generating on time performance reports from purchase order data, the on time performance reports including a number of orders delivered on time by a first supplier with respect to each of a plurality of start point / end point pairs.

25. The system of claim 24 wherein the on time performance reports also include a number/percentage of line items delivered on time by the first supplier with respect to each of the plurality of start point / end point pairs.

26. The system of claim 24 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage.

27. The system of claim 25 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage and the number of line items delivered on time is a percentage.

28. A computer program product in an electronically readable medium, the computer program product comprising:

executable code for generating on time performance reports from purchase order data, the on time performance reports including a number of orders delivered on time by a first supplier with respect to each of a plurality of start point / end point pairs.

29. The computer program product of claim 28 wherein the on time performance reports also include a number of line items delivered on time by a first supplier with respect to each of a plurality of start point/ end point pairs.

30. The computer program product of claim 29 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage.

31. The computer program product of claim 30 wherein the number of orders delivered on time is a percentage and the number of line items delivered on time is a percentage.

32. In a system for reporting supplier performance, the system including reporting of order rejections, a method of reporting a reason for order rejections comprising:

collecting from a first customer predictive data elements about at least one of a plurality of orders made by the first customer to a first supplier, the predictive data elements being predictive of whether a rejection of items in the at least one of the plurality of orders was customer caused or supplier caused;

making a prediction based on the predictive data elements about whether the rejection of items in the at least one of the plurality of orders was customer caused or supplier caused; and

reporting the rejection as either supplier caused or customer caused based on the prediction.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not the at least one of the plurality of orders was cancelled and wherein if the at least one of the plurality of orders was cancelled, then the prediction indicates that the rejection was customer caused.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not an item in the at least one of the plurality of orders was re-shipped and

wherein if the item was re-shipped, then the prediction indicates that the rejection was supplier caused.

35.    The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not items in the at least one of the plurality of orders were delivered late and wherein if the items in the at least one of the plurality of orders were delivered late, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

36.    The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not a PO/Invoice mismatch exists with respect to the at least one of the plurality of orders and wherein if a PO/Invoice mismatch exists, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

37.    The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not a payment was less than an invoice amount with respect to the at least one of the plurality of orders and wherein if a payment was less than an invoice amount, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

38.    The method of claim 32 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not an item in a one of the plurality of orders was defective, and wherein if the item was defective, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

39.    A system for reporting supplier performance comprising:

at least one computer;

first executable code for storing data collected from a first customer including predictive data elements about items in at least one of a plurality of orders made by

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the first customer to a first supplier, the predictive data elements being predictive of

whether a rejection of items in the at least one of the plurality of orders was customer

caused or supplier caused;

second executable code for making a prediction based on the predictive data

elements whether the rejection was customer caused or supplier caused; and

third executable code for assembling a report including indication of the

rejection as either supplier caused or customer caused based on the prediction;

wherein the first, second, and third executable code is in an electronically

readable medium accessible to the at least one computer.

40.     The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is

whether or not the at least one of the plurality of orders was cancelled and wherein if

the at least one of the plurality of orders was cancelled, then the prediction indicates

that the rejection was customer caused.

41.     The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is

whether or not an item in the at least one of the plurality of orders was re-shipped and

wherein if the item was re-shipped, then the prediction indicates that the rejection was

supplier caused.

42.     The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is

whether or not items in the at least one of the plurality of orders were delivered late

and wherein if the items in the at least one of the plurality of orders were delivered

late, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

43.    The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not a PO/Invoice mismatch exists with respect to the at least one of the plurality of orders and wherein if a PO/Invoice mismatch exists, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

44.    The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not a payment was less than an invoice amount with respect to the at least one of the plurality of orders and wherein if a payment was less than an invoice amount, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

45.    The system of claim 39 wherein a one of the predictive data elements is whether or not an item in a one of the plurality of orders was defective, and wherein if the item was defective, then the prediction is that the rejection was supplier caused.

46.    A system for reporting supplier performance comprising:

means for collecting from a first customer predictive data elements about at least one of a plurality of orders made by the first customer to a first supplier, the predictive data elements being predictive of whether a rejection of items in the at least one of the plurality of orders was customer caused or supplier caused;

means for making a prediction based on the predictive data elements about whether the rejection of items in the at least one of the plurality of orders was customer caused or supplier caused; and

means for reporting the rejection as either supplier caused or customer caused based on the prediction.